

THIRD

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

SCHOOL COMMITTEE

OF THE

TOWN OF SWAMPSCOTT,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING FEB. 28, 1855.

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LYNN:

W. W. KELLOGG, PRINTER OVER THE DEPOT,  
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1855.



# R E P O R T .

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At the close of the present school year, your committee have the honor of presenting to their fellow citizens, the following annual Report.

The results of our inspections and examination in the several departments of instruction in the schools under our care, give promise of further advancement, and a juster application of the value of a good education.

And while we say this, we would not give the impression, that we have arrived at that point of excellence for which we labor, but only that, from what we have seen and known, hope is awakened, that a better day in our educational matters, is beginning to dawn upon us.

There are evils that belabor us, and that contend sharply for mastery over us. Among others and the chief are non-attendance at school, of children for trivial reasons, and absolute truancy. These have assumed so much importance that the attention of the town authorities has been directed to the arrest of them by enforcing the State provisions, for all such delinquencies. The following are the statutes referred to.

—*See Supplement to School Laws, Chs. 294, 283.*

## AN ACT CONCERNING TRUANT CHILDREN AND ABSENTEES FROM SCHOOL.

SECT. 1. Each of the several cities and towns, in this Commonwealth, is hereby authorized and empowered to make all needful provisions and arrangements concerning habitual truants, and children not attending school, without any regular and lawful occupation, growing up in ignorance, between the ages of six and fifteen years ; and also, all such ordinances and by-laws, respecting such children, as shall be deemed most conducive to their welfare, and the good order of such city or town ; and there shall be annexed to such ordinances, suitable penalties, not exceeding, for any one breach, a fine of twenty dollars : *provided*, that said ordinances and by-laws shall be approved by the court of common pleas for the county, and shall not be repugnant to the laws of the Commonwealth.

SECT. 2. The several cities and towns, availing themselves of the provisions of this act, shall appoint, at the annual meetings of said towns, or annually by the mayor and aldermen of said cities, three or more persons, who alone shall be authorized to make the complaints, in every case of violation of said ordinances or by-laws, to the justice of the peace, or other judicial officer, who, by said ordinances, shall have jurisdiction in the matter, which persons, thus appointed, shall alone have authority to carry into execution the judgments of said justice of the peace, or other judicial officer.

SECT. 3. The said justice of the peace, or other judicial officers, shall in all cases, at their discretion, in place of the fine aforesaid, be authorized to order children, proved before them to be growing up in truancy, and without the benefit of the education provided for them by law, to be placed, for such periods of time as they may judge expedient, in such institution of instruction, or house of reformation, or other suitable situation, as may be assigned or provided for the purpose, under the authority conveyed by the first section of this act, in each city or town availing itself of the powers herein granted. [May 3, 1850.]

AN ACT IN ADDITION TO "AN ACT CONCERNING TRUANT CHILDREN  
AND ABSENTEES FROM SCHOOLS."

SECT. 1. Any minor between the ages of six and fifteen years, convicted under the provisions of an act entitled "An act concerning truant children and absentees from school," passed in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty, of being an habitual truant, or of not attending school, or of being without any regular and lawful occupation, or growing up in ignorance, may, at the discretion of the justice of the peace or judicial officer having jurisdiction of the

case, instead of the fine mentioned in the first section of said act, be committed to any such institution of instruction, house of reformation, or suitable situation, as may be provided for the purpose under the authority given in said first section, for such time as such justice or judicial officer may determine, not exceeding one year.

SECT. 2. Any minor convicted of either of said offences, and sentenced to pay a fine as provided in the first section of the act to which this is in addition, may, in default of payment thereof, be committed to said institution of instruction, house of reformation, or suitable situation provided as aforesaid, or to the county jail, as provided in case of non-payment of other fines. And upon proof that said minor is unable to pay said fine, and has no parent, guardian, or person chargeable with his support, able to pay the same, he may be discharged by said justice or judicial officer, whenever he shall see fit.

SECT. 3. If any person so convicted be not discharged as aforesaid, he shall be discharged according to the provisions of the third section of the one hundred and forty-fifth chapter of the Revised Statutes.

SECT. 4. The powers of the justice of the peace or judicial officer, under this act and the act to which this is in addition, in all unfinished cases shall continue under any re-appointment to the same office, provided there be no interval between the expiration and re-appointment to said office.

SECT. 5. The third section of the act entitled "An act concerning truant children and absentees from school," passed in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty, is hereby repealed. [May 20, 1852.]

Availing ourselves of the above most definite acts of the legislature, we are now prepared to treat with these evils in a judical manner, and we most earnestly express our expectation that every offence against such laws will not be passed over without resolute action.

To show that we have not over-stepped our bounds as a school committee, in reference to the above evils, we quote further from the Laws of the Commonwealth, under whose jurisdiction we are.—*See Supplement of School Laws, Ch. 240.*

## AN ACT CONCERNING THE ATTENDANCE OF CHILDREN AT SCHOOL.

SECT. 1. Every person who shall have any child under his control between the ages of eight and fourteen years,<sup>1</sup> shall send such child to some public school within the town or city in which he resides during at least twelve weeks, if the public school within such town or city shall be so long kept, in each and every year during which such child shall be under his control, six weeks of which shall be consecutive.

SECT. 2. Every person who shall violate the provision of the first section of this act shall forfeit, to the use of such town or city, a sum not exceeding twenty dollars, to be recovered by complaint or indictment.

SECT. 3. It shall be the duty of the school committee in the several towns or cities to inquire into all cases of violation of the first section of this act and to ascertain of the persons violating the same, the reasons if any, for such violation, and they shall report such cases, together with such reasons, if any, to the town or city, in their annual report; but they shall not report any cases such as are provided for by the fourth section of this act.

SECT. 4. If, upon inquiry by the school committee, it shall appear, or if upon the trial of any complaint or indictment under this act, it shall appear, that such child has attended some school not in the town or city in which he resides, for the time required by this act, or has been otherwise furnished with the means of education for a like period of time, or has already acquired those branches of learning which are taught in common schools, or if it shall appear, that his bodily or mental condition has been such as to prevent his attendance at school, or his acquisition of learning for such a period of time, or that the person having the control of such child is not able, by reason of poverty, to send such child to school, or to furnish him with the means of education, then such persons shall be held not to have violated the provision of this act.

SECT. 5. It shall be the duty of the treasurer of the town or city to prosecute all violations of this act. [*May 18 1852.*]

## GENERAL REMARKS.

We remark in general upon this whole subject that many persons theorize about school-matters, without a proper understanding of the difficulties that beset teachers in their daily avocation, or the duties of a school committee. When teachers are faithful and com-



mittees are honest, and have good consciences, such should at least have the credit of good intentions, even though they may have imperfections.

There are many things included in the word education.

A teacher's duty and a pupil's task, are not only to be found in holding a text book, and in reciting sentences, or insitting at the desk and at the form like automaton.

But it has a broader meaning than this,—regularity, discipline, courtesy, as well as signification, and classification of words, and ideas conveyed by such words, and their application to real-life, are all closely related to the term education, and included within it.

The "line upon line", "precept upon precept", "here a little and there a little", are mottoes daily illustrated in our school-rooms.

The endeavor to educate one child at home is felt to be a severe task that requires a large share of good sense, and moral and intellectual culture, to do well. And if so, how much must a teacher have? what capacity? what patience? what judgment? what tact? what wisdom? what devotion to his work, when called to educate some fifty or seventy minds, varying as much in their faculties and dispositions as their countenances vary.

Hence then, when we are assured of the integrity of the teacher, much allowance should be made for any apparent or real deficiency in any given case, and we should grant him our continued support.

## ANNUAL EXAMINATIONS.

These occurred as follows:—First Primary on the 14th of February, A. M.; Second Primary on the 15th A. M.; Grammar School on the 16th P. M.; Intermediate School on the 19th P. M.

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### FIRST PRIMARY SCHOOL.

ELVINA F. FULLER, Teacher. Salary, \$200.

*School Divisions and Studies.*—Six classes in reading, three in arithmetical lessons, outline maps, and singing. Present at examination, 57. All the members of the school committee present.

Visitors at examination, 25; visitors during the year, 6; advanced to intermediate, 14.

Whole number of scholars during the spring and summer terms, 69 and 68; fall and winter, 88 and 67. Average attendance in spring and summer, 50 and 55; fall and winter,  $60\frac{1}{4}$  and  $44\frac{1}{4}$ . Whole number present at the commencement of the current year, 64; at its close, 67. Whole number absent each term, spring, 65, 840 days; summer, 61, 581 days; fall, 74, 782 days; winter, 62, 873. Whole number under five years of age, 7. Average age, 6. Aggregate number of months the school was in session, (four weeks a school month,) 11 months, 5 days. Present teacher in charge of the school, 1 year, 3 months. Number of scholars completed the year, with 5 days' absence and less:—spring, 15; summer, 14; fall, 3; winter, 14.



This is still an infant school, and is accomplishing all that we can reasonably expect. Parents do not consider the laborious work of the school-teacher, that has charge of so many different scholars as have been found in this department. The variety of capacities, the different dispositions and temperaments, all must be provided for as well as the ordinary and more trying peculiarities of childhood.

The minutest things must be done, as well as the more important and more striking, in the course of a child's education—in erecting a building many small nails are driven in obscure places—but the building is incomplete without these.

The mechanic never gets credit for this unseen work, while it is as deserving as the timbering, boarding, and finishing. School teaching is absolute toiling—no physical effort is so wearing; it can never be appreciated by a mere observer, who has never had experience in a school-room. A person merely going into a school like this on an examination day, will draw sometimes the most hasty conclusions.

The progress during the past year has been very perceptible to those of us who have watched this school from time to time. The age of the scholars is such that no great changes should be expected.

If discipline is maintained, and the older scholars learn anything at all about letters, words, sentences, figures, places, we are satisfied, and love to commend the faithfulness and devotion of the teacher.

This has been done, and we are most happy in recommending this school in its future history, and also the present teacher, to the confidence, and co-operation of every parent and all the citizens.

## SECOND PRIMARY AND INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL.

LOUISA E. MARTIN, Teacher. Salary, \$200.

*School Divisions and Studies.*—Six classes in reading, four classes in arithmetic, two classes in geography, outline map exercises, writing, spelling and singing.

Whole number of scholars during spring and summer terms, 54 and 50; fall and winter, 61 and 60. Average attendance in spring and summer terms, 45 and 42; fall and winter, 48 and 48. Whole number present at the opening of current year, 45; at its close, 58. Whole number absent each term, spring, 48; number of days, 459; summer, 46; number of days, 360; fall, 54; number of days, 454; winter, 58; number of days, 485. Whole number under five years of age, 1. Average age of pupils,  $8\frac{1}{2}$ . Number of foreign pupils, 15. Aggregate number of months the school in session, 11 months, 5 days. Present teacher in charge of school, 1 year, 3 months.

Number of scholars that completed the year with only 5 days' absence and less—spring, 16; summer, 26; fall, 25; winter, 26. Advanced to grammar school, 10. Present at examination, 47.

Two members of school committee present. Visitors during the year, 12; on examination day, 30; there would have been more present, if the roads had been more passable.

This continues still a miscellaneous school, composed of the two elements, primary and intermediate—more of the latter than the former—and its state of advancement this year compares very favorably with that of the regular intermediate. The first and second classes in reading and arithmetic, and the

classes in geography, have marched on grandly during the past year.

On the day of examination we had the most conclusive evidence of the successful efforts of the teacher in these several branches of study. The spelling of the entire school was unexceptionable! We had also good specimens of writing exhibited to us.

While sitting and taking note of the exercises, as these proceeded in their order, the thought occurred to us, that the character of the school did not depend in its most pleasing and attractive features, upon the aspect of the school-room, for in our interest and attention to the recitings of the scholars, we forgot the disfiguration of walls, the unpainted ventilating shaft, soiled desks, and dilapidated entry-ways, and unhinged blinds; yet goodly habiliments and tasteful arrangement would not have at all marred the picture.

We earnestly hope and expect that during the year, this school-house, now becoming so important to that part of the town, will be thoroughly repaired, and made more desirable in its internal appearance as well as painted and surrounded with trees externally.

The struggles through which this school has passed have been evidently made to administer to its increase and strengthen its position and influence.

#### INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL.

LAVINIA HILL, Teacher. Salary, \$220.

*School Divisions and Studies.*—Three classes in reading and spelling; four classes in mental arithmetic; two classes in geography, general exercises on outline maps, writing and singing.

Whole number of scholars during spring and summer terms, 66. Average attendance, 45. Whole number during fall and winter terms, 61. Average

attendance, 43. Whole number absent during spring and summer terms, 63; number of days, 2085 $\frac{1}{2}$ . Whole number absent during fall and winter terms, 59; number of days, 2187 $\frac{1}{2}$ . Number of scholars present at the opening of the current year, 52; at its close, 53. Whole number of scholars over 15 years and under 5, 0. Average age of pupils, 9 $\frac{3}{4}$ . Number of foreign pupils, 2. Number of months the school was in session, (four weeks to the month,) 11 months, 5 days. Present teacher in charge of school, 3 years, 5 months. Present at examination, 47. Advanced to grammar school, 18. Two members of the committee present. Visitors during the year, 10; on examination day, about 40.

We had the novel spectacle of entering upon the exercises of the examination and completing them without the presence of the teacher—a case that has never occurred before in our experience. And while this was unusual, it was yet more delightfully strange to us, that the school did not seem to need the presence of the teacher, in order to secure the regularity and attention so indispensable on an occasion like this. But so it was—the school like a well-wrought and accurate piece of mechanism, when the springs of motion were touched, started and went on, completing the warp, woof, and web.

While therefore we very much regretted the absence of the teacher, both from the cause, (sickness) on our own account, and for the sake of parents and pupils, yet this providential hindrance, gave us the means of judging very impartially of the condition and actual state of advancement of this school—there was certainly no glossing over by the teacher, as it is sometimes supposed by a careless observer, may be done for effect! We expected more of this school this year than we did the last year, for very obvious reasons, and we were not at all disappointed.

The earnest and "conscientious discharge of duty" on the part of this teacher has not gone unrewarded. The school in its every aspect of order, intelligence, and progress, gave us indubitable proofs of the discipline that has been maintained, the thought that has been inspired, and the effort that has been aroused on the part of the pupils. An active and intelligent mind, disciplined and enriched by experience and observation, will make an impression worth noting.

We see the benefit of securing permanent instructors in all our schools, and of good discipline in the condition of the above school.

#### GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

W. F. GILE, Teacher. Salary, \$600.

*School Divisions and Studies.*—Three classes in reading, three in geography, four in written arithmetic, two in mental, one in grammar, one in history, one in anatomy. The school form one general class in dictation exercises, outline maps, composition and writing.

Whole number of scholars during the spring term, 46; summer, 39; fall, 35; winter, 44. Average attendance,—spring term,  $37\frac{23}{30}$ ; summer,  $29\frac{8}{9}$ ; fall,  $26\frac{111}{121}$ ; winter,  $36\frac{41}{52}$ . Number absent spring term, 33, 494 days; summer, 32, 409 $\frac{1}{2}$  days; fall, 29, 489 $\frac{1}{2}$  days; winter, 33, 375 days. Number of scholars at the commencement of the year, 41, at its close, 40. Average age of scholars, 13 years, 4 months. Number of scholars not absent during the spring term, 13; summer, 7; fall, 6; winter, 11. Present at examination, 26. Had charge of the school 2 years. The committee all present. Visitors during the year, 19, on examination day, 79.

In reporting this school there are several matters to be considered in making up a fair judgment. The



impression upon the day of examination in some respects might not have been so favorable as was desired. We could account for this better than those who were mere spectators on that occasion. The teacher is therefore entitled to whatever benefit may result to him from such considerations as we may present.

#### NOTES ON EXAMINATION DAY.

Third class in reading, medium.

Third class in spelling, failed.

Second class in reading, medium.

Second class in spelling, failed.

First class in reading, good.

First class in spelling, fair.

It is but just to say in reference to these classes in spelling, that they have been accustomed to write down the words, rather than to spell them orally, and that this plan was adopted by the teacher very properly because he found his scholars making mistakes at the commencement of the year in writing more than in oral spelling. Not being accustomed to spelling words from the reading lessons, they would of course make blunders; still we trust this error will be corrected before another year.

There was great want of voice in reading observable among all the classes, a very common defect and one not always easily controlled.

The three geography classes both in the text books outline maps, made a commendable appearance.

The fourth classes in written arithmetic, gave us most satisfactory evidence of their thorough discipline in this important branch of study.

The class in anatomy and physiology were very ready and prompt in giving answers to all the questions proposed. The entire school seemed to have been well drilled in the dictation exercises.



The compositions were very creditable to the scholars. The following are the subjects of those who were called upon to read them : "Punctuality," "Good and Bad Scholar," "Worldly-mindedness," "Idleness," "Kind and Gentle Words," "Learning," and "Home,"—these were by the girls. "Whaling Voyage," "The Ocean," "Attention,"—by the boys. This is a most difficult art to acquire, and hence it is quite a triumph if a scholar secures a tolerable proficiency in it; some of these scholars certainly have done so.

The fact that some of the classes failed in reading and spelling, is not enough in itself to create any dissatisfaction in our minds, or to call in question a moment the ability and purpose of the teacher. A teacher's reputation never should be based upon so small an item as that. The change in the mode of instruction, and the absence of the teacher during parts of several weeks—on account of illness, are enough to account for any want of promptness or familiarity, on the part of some of the scholars, in *some* departments of study. Then, the irregularity with which some of the pupils attend the school, is another sufficient reason for any want of that progress that the parent may desire. Thus, these things must be always taken into the account, in making up an estimate of a teacher's success or failure.

There has been a steady and safe progress during the past year, and we deem the school in a much better state than it was at the beginning of the year. The discipline of the school has been maintained, and there has ever been, on the part of the teacher, an ingenuity and tact of management, in this respect, that deserves our favorable notice; and he has labored assiduously for the progress of every scholar that has been placed under his care for a longer or shorter

time. There has been no appearance of partiality, or desire to advance one scholar at the expense of another.

The deportment of the teacher in the school-room, has been and is what we desire, and we commend him in all good conscience to the esteem and confidence of our citizens as an able and devoted instructor of children, and youth.

This school will receive a large accession from the lower schools this coming term, in all 30, which added to the present number 41, will make a very respectable school. The effort should be on the part of every parent, to keep the child in the school-room as long as possible—we mean within certain limits. A public opinion should be formed on this subject, that would establish a precedent safe to be followed. If 12 years of age is the time fixed for boys to leave school, then it will be an impossibility to retain them any longer in the school. And the consequences will be that it will take but 8 or 10 years, to raise up a class of young men, who will be entirely incompetent, for the want of the very education they should have acquired between 12 and 16 and 18, to take charge of any public affairs, or feel any deep interest in the great concerns of the community at large. Such a result may now be avoided by single and united endeavors to keep our children in school, at least till they are 16 or 17 years of age. The money such lads might earn ought not to be considered an equivalent to the loss they suffer in all other respects. We most earnestly and respectfully solicit the attention of every citizen, to this vital question,

“Strike, but hear.”

Do not condemn this sentiment till you have weighed the advantages and disadvantages consequent upon the trial of such course as is here suggested.

## FARM SCHOOL.

LAURA ANN ROBERTS, Teacher. Salary, \$70.

*School Division and Studies.*—Classes in reading, spelling, arithmetic, and writing.

Whole number in attendance, 10; average age of scholars, 6; aggregate number of months this school in session, 11; present teacher in charge of this school, 11 months.

This school was established at the beginning of the current school year, at the request, and by the united efforts of those who reside on the "Farms." It has partaken of a character, (public and private,) as it has been in part sustained by private subscription, and in part by the appropriation of the public moneys.

The distance of the public schools of the town, is so great that it would be absolutely impossible for the children of this part of the town, to avail themselves of the privileges enjoyed by those, who live near the center of the town.

The coming year there will be some fifteen children of suitable age to attend school in this district, and we therefore recommend that further appropriation be made for their benefit.

The experiment already made, has been very satisfactory to all concerned. The teacher has patiently and perseveringly pursued her work, and deserves our respect and confidence. We regret to say that the present incumbent resigns her charge the first of April.

## GENERAL STATISTICS.

Teachers.	Salary.	Whole No. of Scholars.	Average Attendance.
Two Primaries,	\$400	149	108 1-4
One Intermediate,	220	66	45
One Grammar,	600	46	37 20-3
Farm School,	70	19	8
	<hr/> \$1290	<hr/> 267	<hr/> 891 110-120

## SCHOOL EXPENDITURES.

W. F. Gile, teacher, principal school.....	\$581 25	
Lavinia Hill, do., intermediate.....	220 00	
Louisa E. Martin, do., int. and primary.....	200 00	
Frances Fuller, do., primary.....	200 00	
Laura A. Roberts, do., primary.....	70 00	
Samuel Tufts, making fires.....	49 00	
do., sawing and splitting wood.....	21 25	
do., sweeping rooms.....	23 00	
do., repairs of stoves, mats, &c.....	6 40	
do., cleansing vaults.....	6 00	
do., taking number of children.....	3 25	
Stephen Smith, fuel, 1853.....	8 25	
do., fuel, 1854.....	122 17	
George Phillips, fuel.....	14 00	
Robert Harris, fuel.....	15 64	
do., teaming wood and coal.....	9 00	
W. F. Gile, blackboard brushes, &c.....	4 02	
R. P. Norton, making fires and sweeping.....	3 75	
Jacob Wilford, distributing reports.....	1 50	
W. T. Pierce, sawing and splitting wood.....	12 01	
L. M. Merrill, setting glass.....	2 50	
George W. Stone, do.....	6 50	
Mrs. McGrab, cleansing rooms.....	3 50	
Thing & Carsley, repairs.....	5 50	
Briggs Delano, do.....	3 83	
William D. Brackett, school books.....	6 66	
Harriet Nesbitt, sweeping room.....	3 50	
		\$1,602 48

## SCHOOL BOOKS.

## GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

*Reading*.—Bible, Tower's 5th and 4th Books, Sequel and Gradual Readers, Swan's Speller, Northend's Dictation Exercises, Worcester's and Webster's Dictionaries.

*Mathematics*.—Colburn's Mental, Greenleaf's Introduction and National Arithmetic, Greenleaf's Algebra, Northend's Book-Keeping.

*Geography*.—Mitchell's Intermediate, Modern Atlas.

*Grammar*.—Weld's and Wells'.

*Philosophy*.—Parker's.

*Writing*.—Payson's and Dunton's System.

*Physiology and Anatomy*.—Cutter's.

*History*.—Willard's United States.

#### INTERMEDIATE.

Bible, Sequel to the Gradual Reader, Gradual Reader, Colburn's Lessons, Mitchell's Intermediate and Mitchell's Primary Geography.

#### PRIMARY.

Bible, Sequel to Gradual Reader, Gradual Reader, Introduction to Gradual Reader, Gradual Primer, Colburn's Lessons, Mitchell's Intermediate and Mitchell's Primary Geography.

#### CONCLUSION.

We recommend to the board of officers, so soon to take our place in this department of public service,—That the salaries of the three female teachers of our schools be increased to the sum of \$250 each. Their increased experience, and faithful endeavors, deserve at our hands a richer reward.

The schools have not only closed the year favorably, but they also have commenced a new year most auspiciously, especially as to numbers in attendance in all the departments—as follows:—

Grammar School, 74; Intermediate, 45; Primary, 53; Primary and Intermediate, 53; Farm, 10.

Devoutly we acknowledge the Divine goodness in preserving the lives and health of our school children. We record no death from the entire list.



With the above report we yield up our responsible charge praying that God's blessing may ever rest upon our excellent schools.

*By order of the School Committee,*

J. B. CLARK, *Chairman.*

J. B. CLARK,	}	<i>School Committee.</i>
E. WOODFORD,		
S. C. PITMAN.		

ERRATA,—Page 3, in 7th line, for *application* read *appreciation*.  
 Page 5, in 8th line from the bottom, for *judical* read *judicial*,  
 Page 13, in 1st line, for *consciencious* read *conscientious*.  
 Page 14, in 7th line from bottom, for *fourth* read *four*.  
 Page 17, in table at the bottom, for 19 read 10—for 267 read  
 271—for 37 20-3 read 37 20-30—for 891 110 120 read  
 198 110-120.



## REGULATIONS OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

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*Regulations common to all the Public Schools under the immediate superintendence of the School Committee.*

SECTION 1. The school-room shall be opened fifteen minutes before the time appointed for beginning school.

SECT. 2. The school hours shall be, for the morning, from 9 o'clock to 12, throughout the year ; and for the afternoon, from 2 to 5, from the first Monday in April to the first Monday in October ; from the first Monday in October to the first Monday in April, from 1½ to 4½ o'clock.

SECT. 3. Each instructor shall punctually observe the time appointed for opening and dismissing the schools, and shall make no occasional change from the regular hours, without consulting some member of the committee.

SECT. 4. The morning exercises of the school shall commence with the reading of the Bible ; and it is recommended that the reading be followed with some devotional service.

SECT. 5. An excuse, written or otherwise authenticated, must be brought by each pupil, for absence, tardiness, or dismissal before the appointed hours for leaving school.

SECT. 6. Tardiness beyond five minutes shall be considered a violation of school hours, and shall subject the delinquent to such penalty as the nature of the case may require.

SECT. 7. There shall be a recess of ten minutes each half day, for every school ; and for every primary school there may be an extra recess each half day.

SECT. 8. The instructor shall exercise a kind and parental discipline. If there is direct and violent opposition to the authority of the teacher, or continued disobedience in a pupil, or improper interference of parents, such as to render his example permanently injurious, it shall be the duty of the teacher to report such pupil to the committee, who alone shall have power to expel from privileges of the school, and to re-admit, evidence being given of repentance and amendment.

SECT. 9. No pupil having been in attendance at one school, shall be admitted into another, without previous consent of the committee.

SECT. 10. Each teacher is directed not to receive any children, as pupils, whose residence is out of town, and if any such are now in attendance, they are now to be dismissed. Neither is any child other than a pupil to be allowed temporarily in any school.

SECT. 11. In case of difficulty in the discharge of their official duties, or when they may desire any temporary indulgence, the instructors shall apply to the committee for advice and direction.

SECT. 12. No studies shall be pursued in any of the schools, nor any text books used or introduced, except those authorized by the committee.

SECT. 13. The statute in regard to the faithful keeping of the school register is to be observed. And it is directed that this register be kept at the school-room, for the inspection of the committee.

SECT. 14. Whenever the necessary school-books are not furnished by the parents or guardian, on the written request of the teacher, it shall be his duty to send such pupil with a written order to the town librarian, specifying the name of the book required, the child's name, the parent's or guardian's name, and the name of the street in which he resides.

SECT. 15. The spring term shall commence on the first Monday in March, and continue twelve weeks. After one week's vacation, the summer term shall commence and continue ten weeks, and to be followed by three weeks' vacation. The fall and winter terms shall be of twelve weeks, and each followed by one week's vacation.

SECT. 16. The following holidays will be allowed, viz :—Wednesday and Saturday afternoons ; days of Public Fast ; the Fourth of July ; Thanksgiving Day and the remainder of the week ; and Christmas day ; and those instructors who may wish to attend the Essex County Teachers' Convention, will be allowed, *for this express purpose alone*, the two days in spring, and the two in the autumn, on which said convention meets. And no change in the regular days of keeping school is to be made, without previous consultation with the committee of the school.

SECT. 17. No subscription or advertisement shall be introduced into any public school without the consent of the committee.

SECT. 18. The above rules are to be strictly regarded.

## APPOINTMENT OF INSTRUCTORS.

SECTION 1. In March, annually, all the instructors in the public schools shall be elected, and their salaries voted ; and no alteration in the amount of salary of any instructor shall be made at any other time.

## ANNUAL EXAMINATIONS.

The annual examination of all the schools, shall take place during the month of February.





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